



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.08

Required Report - public distribution

**Date:** 7/21/2006

**GAIN Report Number:** RO6016

## Romania

# Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

## Country Report

## 2006

**Approved by:**

Paul Trupo

U.S. Embassy Romania

**Prepared by:**

Monica Dobrescu

---

**Report Highlights:**

This is an update for GAIN Report 6001. The following sections were updated: Food labeling, Pesticides and other contaminants, Other regulations and requirements (phytosanitary and veterinary legislation), Copyright and/or trademarks laws, Import procedures, Other specific standards (Novel foods, Dietetic or special use food, Marine Products, Food Supplements, Organic Food, Products derived from Biotechnology). Legal provisions described in GAIN 6001/2006 and not updated in this report remain in place.

---

Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Sofia [BU1]  
[RO]

## Table of Contents

<b>SECTION I. FOOD LAWS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SECTION II. LABELING REQUIREMENTS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
A. General Requirements .....	5
B. Biotechnology Labeling .....	6
C. Organic Labeling.....	6
<b>SECTION III. FOOD ADDITIVE REGULATIONS .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>SECTION IV. PESTICIDE AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
A. Pesticides.....	7
B. Pesticides and substances residues.....	7
<b>SECTION V. OTHER REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS .....</b>	<b>8</b>
Phytosanitary regulations .....	8
Veterinary regulations .....	8
<b>SECTION VII. OTHER SPECIFIC STANDARDS .....</b>	<b>9</b>
A. Novel foods .....	9
B. Dietetic or special use food.....	9
C. Marine Products.....	10
D. Food Supplements .....	11
E. Organic Food.....	12
F. Products derived from Biotechnology.....	12
<b>SECTION VII. COPYRIGHT AND/OR TRADEMARK LAWS .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>SECTION VIII. IMPORT PROCEDURES.....</b>	<b>13</b>
Animal origin products.....	13
Non-animal origin products .....	13
<b>APPENDIX I. GOVERNMENTAL REGULATORY AGENCY CONTACTS .....</b>	<b>14</b>

**DISCLAIMER:**

*This report has been prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Bucharest, Romania for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.*

*Please contact this office, if you would like further information about the material contained in this report. Our telephone, fax, and e-mail address are provided at the end of this report.*

## SECTION I. FOOD LAWS

Several different Government agencies and ministries in Romania have responsibilities related to agri-food production and food importation. As the authorities are determined to move faster towards country's European accession, scheduled for January 2007, the process of transposing EU regulations into domestic legislation is being accelerated. Some of the regulations will be enforced at the moment of accession, while others are enforced prior to this date.

The main bodies with responsibilities covering agricultural production, food processing as well as food importation are the following:

### **The Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development (MAFRD)**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development is the specialized body of the central public administration with governmental jurisdiction. It applies the Government's strategy in the field of agriculture, food processing, as well as rural development and forests management.

### **The Ministry of Environment and Waters Management (MEWM)**

Ministry of Environment and Waters Management is the main body conducting environmental risk assessment (including for GMOs) and monitoring activities that might harm human health and the environment.

### **The Veterinary and Food Safety National Authority (VFSNA)**

This is the main body in charge with sanitary-veterinary and food-safety activities. The Authority performs activities related to animal health and foodstuffs of animal origin, as well as food safety. Its activity was significantly broadened to all aspects generally encompassed by food safety regulating and monitoring.

### **The Ministry of Health (MH)**

The Ministry of Health is responsible for overseeing the production and registration of drugs, food additives, and medical equipment. It is also responsible for the public health as it relates to food and contaminants.

### **The National Authority for Consumers Protection (NACP)**

The National Authority for Consumers Protection is the Government agency established with the aim of protecting the consumers' rights and interests. NACP is actively involved in proposing, endorsing and promoting legislation related to consumer protection, including food products.

The most relevant legal provisions governing agricultural production, food processing and agri-food products, applicable to both domestic and imported products, are outlined below:

- Veterinary Order 148/2005 regarding the surveillance, prevention and control of animal diseases, the diseases transmissible to humans, animal protection and environmental protection;
- Government Ordinance 42/2004 regarding the organization of veterinary activity ;
- Order 234/2001 concerning the import of products of animal origin;

- Government Decision 106/2002 concerning food labeling;
- Government Ordinance 34/2000 concerning organic food;
- Government Emergency Ordinance 97/2001 regarding food production, distribution and commercialization, with the latest amendment Order 551/2004 regarding standard methods for analysis of alcoholic drinks;
- Law 214/2002 amending Government (GOR) Ordinance 49/2000 on obtaining, testing, utilization, and commercialization of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), as well as products derived from GMOs with all amendments.

## SECTION II. LABELING REQUIREMENTS

The following authorities are responsible for regulating and enforcing labeling requirements in Romania at various stages of the food chain:

- The Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development
- The Ministry of Health
- The National Authority for Consumer Protection
- The Veterinary and Food Safety National Authority

### A. General Requirements

The methodology and requirements for food labeling are set out in the GOR Decision 106/2002 - further detailed in its accompanying Methodological Norm 7/2002. The Decision has been recently amended again through GOR Decision 1870/2005.

According to the recent amendment, some special remarks have to be added on the labels, for certain food categories:

Food category	Specifications
Sugar products/Confectionery/beverages containing glycyrrhizinic acid or its ammonium salt due to the addition of the substances as such or the liquorice plant <i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i> , in a concentration equal or higher than 100 mg/kg or 10 mg/l	The terms "contains liquorice" shall be added immediately after the list of ingredients, unless the term "liquorice" is already included in the list of ingredients or in the name under which the product is sold. In absence of list of ingredients, the specification shall take place nearby the name under which the product is sold.
Sugar products/Confectionery containing glycyrrhizinic acid or its ammonium salt due to the addition of the substances as such or the liquorice plant <i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i> in a concentration equal or higher than 4 g/kg	The following message must be added after the list of ingredients: "contains liquorice – individuals suffering from hypertension should avoid excessive consumption". In absence of a list of ingredients, the specification shall take place nearby the name under which the product is sold.
Beverages containing glycyrrhizinic acid or its ammonium salt due to the addition of the substances as such or the liquorice plant <i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i> in a concentration equal or higher than 50 mg/l, or 300 mg/l or above in the case of beverages containing more than 1,2 % by volume of alcohol <sup>(1)</sup> .	The following message must be added after the list of ingredients: "contains liquorice - individuals suffering from hypertension should avoid excessive consumption". In absence of a list of ingredients, the message shall take place nearby the name under which the product is sold.

*(<sup>1</sup>) The level shall apply to the products as proposed ready for consumption or as reconstituted according to the instructions of the manufacturers.*

According to the same amendment, supplementary labeling requirements described in GAIN report 6001/2006 were withdrawn for a selection of food products such as milk, butter, products such as margarine, eggs and egg products, vegetables and fruits, natural juices, fresh beverages, vegetable juices, fruit cans, chocolate and chocolate products, salt, spices, wine and products based on wine, alcoholic beverages, vinegar.

## **B. Biotechnology Labeling**

Legislation on requirements for labeling foodstuffs that are based on GMO products or contain additives that have been genetically modified was fully brought in line with the EU Regulation No. 1831/2003 in March 2006, when the GOR passed the Decision 173 (effective on June 30, 2006). To be consistent with European Union, Romania adopted measures on thresholds for labeling, set at 0.9% for an adventitious presence of an authorized GM in food or feed and, 0.5% for the accidental presence of unauthorized, but scientifically acceptable GMOs. Operators must demonstrate that the presence of GM material was adventitious or technically unavoidable.

The regulation does not require labeling of products that are not food ingredients, such as processing aids. Meat, milk or eggs obtained from animals fed with GM feed or treated with GM medicinal products do not require GM labeling.

According to GOR Decision 256/2006 (effective from January 1, 2007), animal feed, if produced from GM crops, is for the first time required to be labeled as such.

## **C. Organic Labeling**

Imported products should be labeled as "organic" if they were produced by organic methods confirmed by the certificate of compliance. According to GOR Ordinance 34/2000, the product label must contain: the name and the address of the producer/processor, the name of the product and the ecological production method, the name and the mark of the inspecting and certifying institution, the storage conditions, the minimum term of validity, the interdiction to store the ecological products along with ordinary products.

According to the recent amendment on organic food labeling stated in Order 317/2006 and approved by MAFDR and NACA, for organic food labeling and advertisement the emblem "ae" (agricultura ecologica = organic agriculture) is used. The emblem belongs to the Ministry of Agriculture and can be applied on the product, on the label or on the package. The amendment refers to both domestic and imported products.

## **SECTION III. FOOD ADDITIVE REGULATIONS**

MH, MAFRD (Department of Food Industry, Standards, Marks and Licenses) together with VFSNA are the authorities responsible for regulating food additives in foodstuffs. Order 438/295/2002 defining and listing additives permitted for use in foodstuffs was modified through Order 154/2005, entering into force on June 6, 2006. The main changes refer to lists of products in which sweeteners can be added, new food additives and new dose levels for several food products. The Romanian version of the entire list of food additive permitted for use in foodstuffs can be procured by request from the Official Monitor (Appendix I).

## SECTION IV. PESTICIDE AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS

### A. Pesticides

Generally, Romania adopts the international standards (Codex Alimentarius) on tolerance of pesticides, herbicides and fungicides used against crop diseases and pests. The authority responsible for the registration of agricultural chemicals is the General Directorate for Environmental Protection within the MEWM, from where the U.S. exporters can obtain a list of approved pesticides.

### B. Pesticides and substances residues

Order 147/2004 issued by the VFSNA establishing the maximum levels of pesticide residues accepted in products of animal and non-animal origin was amended through Order 12/2006, which includes a list of products of plant origin and the accepted maximum levels of pesticide residues for each of them. The Romanian version of the list of maximum levels of pesticide residues in products of animal and non-animal origin can be procured from the Official Monitor (see Appendix I).

The Veterinary Order 82/2005 establishes the measures for surveillance and control of certain substances and their residues in live animals and their products, as well as residues of veterinary medicines in products of animal origin. This regulation refers to administration of substances having anabolic effect and unauthorized substances (stilbenes, stilbene derivatives, and their salt and esters, antithyroid agents, steroids, resorcylic acid lactones including zeranol, beta-agonists etc.), various veterinary drugs and contaminants (antimicrobial substances, antihelmintics, anticoccidials, including nitroimidazoles, carbamates and pyrethroids, sedatives, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, other pharmacologically active substances, organochlorine compounds including PCB, organophosphorus compounds, chemical elements, mycotoxins, dyes, other substances).

Order 82/2005 was amended in 2006 by Order 14, and the maximum permitted levels of residues for new types of antibiotics, progestogen and derivatives of acyl-urea were established and added to the list.

All regulations on pesticides and substance residues are equally applied to domestic and imported products.

Order 46/2005 published by the VFSNA provides emergency measures regarding chili, chili products, curcuma and palm oil imports. The regulation requires that each consignment of such products is accompanied by an original analytical report demonstrating that the products do not contain any of the following chemical substances:

- Sudan I (CAS no. 842-07-9)
- Sudan II (CAS no. 3118-97-6)
- Sudan III (CAS no. 85-86-9)
- Scarlet Red or Sudan IV (CAS no. 85-83-6)

The analytical report has to be endorsed by a representative of the relevant competent authority in the exporting country. In the absence of such an analytical report, the authorities shall have the product tested to demonstrate that it does not contain one or more of the above-mentioned chemical substances. Pending availability of the analytical report, the product shall be detained under official supervision.

Chili, chili products, curcuma and palm oil that are found to contain one or more of the chemical substances shall be destroyed at the importers' expense.

## SECTION V. OTHER REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

### Phytosanitary regulations

The main legal provision regulations in this field are GOR Ordinance 136/2000 (approved through Law 214/2001) and GOR Decision 1030/2001 (changed by GOR Decision 1619/2003). The methodological norms of the latest provide a full list of organisms considered harmful on the Romanian territory and which are forbidden for importation. Also, agricultural products contaminated with the specified organisms are forbidden for importation.

Every year Ministry of Agriculture updates the Official Catalogue of registered varieties of plants for cultivation in Romania (Order 727/2005), which includes all varieties tested by the State Institute for Varieties Testing and Registration. The MAFDR recently approved rules concerning the testing and registration of agricultural plant varieties of beet, fodder plants, cereals, potatoes, seeds of oil and fiber plants (Order 1348/2005) and vegetables (Order 1349/2005).

Specific marketing and technical rules were approved this year by the MAFDR for cereals seeds production (Order 1262/2005), fodder plants (Order 1263/2005), vegetables propagating and planting material, other than seeds (Order 1269/2005), potato seeds (Order 1266/2005), oil and fiber plants seeds (Order 1269/2005), beet seeds (Order 1265/2005), propagating material of ornamental plants (Order 1268/2005). All these regulations define types of seeds (basic seeds, certified seeds, commercial seeds etc.) for each of the plant varieties. Clear procedures for seed testing, labeling, marking, and packaging are provided further for each of the plant varieties and for each seed type. Import requirements for seeds originating from third countries are also provided, specifically for each seed type and its multiplication process.

### Veterinary regulations

The Veterinary Order no. 148/2005, in effect since January 2006, regulates the activities of surveillance, prevention and control of animal diseases, the ones transmissible to humans, animal protection and environmental protection. This regulation provides for each disease a set of rules regarding surveillance, sample testing, risk areas, and inspection frequency. Sanitary and veterinary surveillance in farms, food processing establishments, cold storage, and stores is also provided by this regulation.

The following regulations describe the current and future required certification for poultry meat and pork meat.

#### ❑ Poultry Meat

The EU health certificate model was enforced starting with June 8, 2006 through Order 124/2006. This unexpected measure approved by the VFSNA led to a total ban on U.S. exports, as no U.S. poultry plants are approved for export to the European Union. The order was the result of an effort to protect the Romanian poultry industry, which is trying to recover from losses due to persistent outbreaks of Avian Influenza.

All fresh poultry meat consignments accompanied by the previous version of the Health Certificate signed before/on June 7, 2006, will be accepted for importation, assuming the arrival date is prior to August 5, 2006.



Additional rules on immediate transit and storage for poultry meat are provided by Order 156/2006 issued by the VFSNA (amending Order 95/2006). The amendment, which will be enforced when Romania becomes an EU member, states that poultry meat consignments introduced on the Romanian territory and having as final destination a third country (non-EU member), through immediate transit or storage, has to fulfill the following requirements:

- originate from the territory of a third country or parts of a third country approved for import into Romania (United States is part of this list)
- fulfill the specific animal health requirements included in the animal health attestation part of the EU Health certificate (model A for United States)
- be certified as approved for transit or storage through the Common Entry Veterinary Document by the veterinarian at the border entry point into EU.

In addition to all necessary documents for import in the third country and Animal Health Attestation, a model of health certificate for transit/storage has to be provided by the U.S. exporter.

#### **□ Pork meat and beef meat**

Veterinary Order no. 53/2005 regulates animal health and veterinary certification requirements for third countries. The regulation sets standards which limit U.S. exports to Romania as only EU approved red meat processing plants, would be eligible to export. The above veterinary order will go into effect on October 1, 2006. All pork meat exports certified on or before September 30, 2006 will be accepted in Romania accompanied by the current health certificates. After October 1, 2006 pork meat shipments must be certified with revised certification that indicates compliance with EU requirements.

Beef and beef product exports have to comply with EU requirements starting with July 1, 2006. Thus, only EU approved beef establishments from United States are eligible to export to Romania.

## **SECTION VII. OTHER SPECIFIC STANDARDS**

### **A. Novel foods**

Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture together with the Veterinary and Food Safety National Authority and the National Authority for Consumers Protection amended the norms for novel foods and novel food ingredients through Order 1210/1293/482/137/2005. The new Order transposes EU legislation on placing on the market the yellow fat spreads, salad dressings, milk type products, fermented milk type products, soya drinks and cheese type products with added phytosterols/phytosterols as novel foods or novel food ingredients. The norms include specific recommendations on packaging, maximum amount of phytosterols/phytosterols to be added in each portion, phytosterols/phytosterols specifications, composition, contamination/purity. These new provisions will be enforced starting with January 1 2007.

### **B. Dietetic or special use food**

Order 387/251/2002 approved by Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Health provides norms for foodstuffs with special nutritional uses. The regulation was amended through Order 114/2004, Order 271/2005 and Order 295/2006 issued by the same authorities.

Food products for particular nutritional uses are foodstuffs which, given their special composition or manufacturing process, are clearly distinguishable from foodstuffs for normal consumption, which are suitable for their claimed nutritional purposes and which are marketed in such a way as to indicate such suitability.

Foodstuffs of special nutritional use are considered the ones responding to special nutritional uses for:

- a. certain categories of persons whose digestive processes or metabolism are disturbed;
- b. categories of persons who are in a special physiological condition and who are therefore able to obtain special benefit from a controlled consumption of certain substances in foodstuffs;
- c. infants or young children in good health.

In order to ensure an efficient monitoring on the market of products outside the categories specified above, the producer or the importer has to follow the notification procedure, when a product is introduced on the market for the first time. In this regard, the following information has to be submitted by the producer / importer to the Ministry of Health:

- label model;
- identification data of producer/importer;
- name under which the product is sold;
- product category;
- self-responsible declaration that the product manufactured and marketed observes the current legislation;
- self-responsible declaration concerning the accuracy of data and information submitted.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Health can require the Institutes for Public Health to issue an evaluation report concerning the respective foodstuffs.

Products included in the first 2 categories above a) and b) can be characterized as "dietetic" or "for dietary use".

The name under which these foodstuffs are marketed has to be accompanied by the particular nutritional characteristics, or in case of the third category of products, by the purpose for which they are intended.

In addition to all information which has to be included on the label, with respect to general food labeling legislation, label for foodstuffs with special nutritional use has to include:

- particular elements of the qualitative and quantitative composition or the special manufacturing process which gives the product its particular nutritional characteristics;
- the available energy value expressed in kJ and kcal and the carbohydrate, protein and fat content per 100 g or 100 ml of the product as marketed and, where appropriate, per specified amount of the product as proposed for consumption. If, however, the energy value is less than 50 kJ (12 kcal) per 100 g or 100 ml of the product as marketed, these remarks may be replaced either by the words *"energy value less than 50 kJ (12 kcal) per 100 g"* or by the words *"energy value less than 50 kJ (12 kcal) per 100 ml"*.

Further, the regulation provides the requirements that have to be filled-in by each category of foodstuffs:

- a) The composition and labeling of foodstuffs for infants and young children under 1 year old;
- b) Foods based on processed cereals for infants and young children;
- c) Dietetic foodstuffs for special medical purposes;
- d) Foodstuffs used in diets for weight reduction with low energetic value.

### **C. Marine Products**

Order 82/2006 approved by the NSVFSA concerns the animal health conditions governing the placing on the market of aquaculture animals and aquaculture products. The regulation

harmonizing the EU Directive 1991/67 will be enforced when Romania will become an EU member.

According to this regulation, aquaculture animals and products have to originate from third countries/their territories approved by the European Union. They have to be accompanied by a certificate issued by the authorizing authority. The certificate has to fulfill the following conditions:

- issuance day is the day of loading;
- accompany the shipment in original;
- certify that the aquaculture animals and certain fishery products fulfill the requirements stated by EU Directive 1991/67;
- valid for 10 days;
- comprised in a single page;
- issued for a single consignee.

As of May 1, 2006 a new Health certificate covering fishery & aquaculture product imports from United States to Romania is required. The Seafood Inspection Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce/NOOA Division issues the required bilingual certificate (English/Romanian). Interested seafood exporters are advised to contact FAS Bucharest Office or U.S. Department of Commerce/NOOA Division to get a copy of the certificate model.

#### **D. Food Supplements**

Food Supplements are regulated by the Order 1228/244/2005 approved by Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Health. According to this regulation, food supplements can be presented on the market in any of the form of tablets covered or uncovered, capsules, jellies, pastes, candies or bars, juices, liquids, powders, or other liquid forms, ampoules of liquids, drop dispensing bottles, which contain nutritional substances for human diet.

The products have to be safe and harmless to human health. The responsibility for placing such products on the market belongs to the notifying agent, who can be the producer, the importer or the producer's authorized representative.

The products have to be packed in food packages and bear Romanian labels. It is forbidden that food supplements are traded without a prior notification to the official authorities (Institute for Food Bio-resources or Institute for Public Health). A notification certificate is issued within 10 days from the submission date. The products cannot be placed on the market before receiving this certificate.

Notification dossier has to include the following information:

- a. Notification request;
- b. Trade registry approval number;
- c. Product presentation sheet; additionally, in case of imported products, conformity certificate and origin country have to be added;
- d. Ingredients list (quality and quantity);
- e. Analytical report for physical-chemical and microbiological tests issued by a laboratory approved by a third country;
- f. Label in Romanian language;
- g. Packaging certificate.

Once the food supplement is notified by either producer, importer or producer's authorized representative, there is no need for a renewal.

### **E. Organic Food**

Import and export rules provided by Order 721/2003 issued by the Ministry of Agriculture are still valid. In order to import U.S. organic products, Romanian importers must demonstrate to the National Authority for Ecological Products that the products were obtained according to standards equivalent to the Romanian standards and were subject to an equivalent control.

### **F. Products derived from Biotechnology**

Similarly to labeling, regulatory framework for tracking biotech products in Romania was updated to reflect the latest EU provisions. According to GOR Decision 173/2006 (transposing 2003/1830/EC), appropriate labeling throughout the marketing chain ensures, from June 30, 2006, full traceability in Romania. The responsibility lies with the Veterinary and Food Safety National Authority, in close cooperation with the other biotech regulatory authorities. Under these rules for traceability, companies involved in this business must transmit and retain information about products that contain or are produced from GMOs at each stage of placing them on the market. Information concerning the presence of GMOs must be transmitted throughout the commercial chain and must be kept for five years. The regulation covers all products, including food and feed, containing or derived from GMOs that received a national authorization, e.g. GM seeds, GM grain (soybeans), oil etc.

For GMOs intended for food, feed or for processing, operators may either transmit the specified information or transmit a declaration that the product shall only be used as food or feed or for processing together with the identity of the GMO(s) from which the product was derived. In the case of food and feed produced from GMOs, operators at each link of the chain must inform the next link that the product is produced from GMO(s).

Additional traceability elements are provided in the Ministry of Agriculture's Order 462 from July 2003, which requires all farmers using seeds for biotech crops to report the area planted with such seeds and the obtained yields.

## **SECTION VII. COPYRIGHT AND/OR TRADEMARK LAWS**

Intellectual property laws are in place in Romania. Each company is responsible for protecting its intellectual property rights. Although enforcement has been improving lately, the authorities still struggle to become more effective. Romania is signatory to a number of international Intellectual Property Rights conventions.

### **Invention patents and Trademarks**

The Romanian Law protects the invention acts through patents. The applications, including a description of the invention, must be submitted in the Romanian language to the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (OSIM). When written in another language, a translation into Romanian of the already submitted documentation must be provided within two months. Law 64 of October 1991 with subsequent updates and rules of application regulates the invention patents.

Specific rules on Trademarks registration in the National Trademarks Registry, applications submittal, renewal, trademarks publication, property rights change of ownership, international trademarks registration are provided by Law 84/1998 and its application rules.

### **Copyrights**

The Romanian Office for Copyrights handles the issues related to copyrights. The main piece of legislation governing Copyrights is Law 8/1996 with subsequent amendments. Foreigners, will be treated according to the international agreements signed by Romania, while in the absence of such agreements, the foreigners will be treated equally as Romanian citizens, assuming the same treatment is endorsed in their country for the Romanian citizens.

U.S. companies might find that copyright enforcement is still inadequate in Romania. The Romanian Office for Copyrights, the State Office for Inventions and Patents and the General Customs Department collaborate to solve copyright infringements.

## **SECTION VIII. IMPORT PROCEDURES**

### **Animal origin products**

The conditions and the sanitary veterinary procedure for import, export, and transit of live animals, products and by-products of animal origin, fodder and products of veterinary use are stated by Order 138/2005 issued by the VFSNA. Its provisions were presented in the GAIN report 6001/2006. However, Order 13/2006 recently amended the maximum period for shipments arrival within the country set forth in Order 138/2005. Thus, a shipment leaving the border, has to reach its final destination in at most 5 working days, as opposed to 72 hours stipulated in the previous veterinary order, otherwise the importer's access to the TRAFFIC application will be denied.

### **Non-animal origin products**

The conditions and the sanitary veterinary procedure for import and export of food products of non-animal origin subject to surveillance and control for food safety are stated in Order 38/2006 issued by the Veterinary National Authority. Imported products of non-animal origin are placed on the market only after the goods owner will provide documents proving the contaminants level, pesticides residues, microbiological criteria and their conformity with the current legislation.

It is important that U.S. suppliers note that only plant varieties for cultivation (seeds and propagating material) included in the Romanian Official Register, in the EU Official Catalogue or in the Official Catalogue of one of the Member States will be accepted for importation in Romania. The importer wishing to import one plant variety should request an Import permit, along with documents proving that the plant variety has been already registered/introduced in EU official plant register or one of the Member States.

Order 257/2002 issued by MAFRD regulates the import of seeds and propagating material for multiplication and cultivation. Phyto-sanitary certificate issued by APHIS for certain plant species listed in Annex 5 of GOR Decision 1030/2001 and the import approval are the main documents necessary for importation.

The phytosanitary certificate, issued by USDA/APHIS, must accompany the products imported from the United States, certifying that the product is free of quarantine organisms.

The import approval is issued by Ministry of Agriculture, based on the following documents submitted by the importer and it is valid for 6 months:

- Import request (two copies of it submitted at least 10 days before the actual import);
- Authorization for production, processing or marketing of seeds and propagating material;

- Import contract or similar document;
- Other documents.

## **APPENDIX I. GOVERNMENTAL REGULATORY AGENCY CONTACTS**

### **The Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development**

24, Bd. Carol I, sector 3  
020921 Bucharest, Romania  
Phone: 40 21 3072300 3072345 3078500  
Fax: 40 21 3078685  
E-mail: [comunicare@maa.ro](mailto:comunicare@maa.ro)  
Web site: <http://www.maap.ro>

### **The Ministry of Environment and Waters Management**

12 Libertatii Blvd., Sector 5  
Bucharest, Romania  
Phone: 40 21 3160215  
Fax.: 40 21 3160243  
E-mail: [mmediu@mmediu.ro](mailto:mmediu@mmediu.ro)  
Website: <http://www.mmediu.ro>

### **The Ministry of Health**

1-3, Cristian Popisteanu Str., sector 1, 010024  
Bucharest, Romania  
Phone: 40 21 3072500 or 40 21 3072600  
Fax: 40 21 3141526  
Web site: <http://www.ms.ro>

### **The National Sanitary-Veterinary and for Food Safety Authority**

1B Negustori Street, sector 2  
Bucharest, Romania  
Phone: 40 21 3157875  
Fax: 40 21 3124967  
Website: <http://www.ansv.ro>

### **The National Authority for Consumers Protection**

5 George Clemenceau St., Bucharest  
Phone: 40 21 3121275  
Fax: 40 21 3143462  
Web site: [www.anpc.ro](http://www.anpc.ro)

### **National Customs Authority**

13 Matei Millo Street, Sector 1, Bucharest  
Phone: 40 21 3155858; 40 21 3155859; 40 723565101; 40 723 565102; 40 723 565103  
Fax: 40 21 313.82.51  
Web site: [www.customs.ro](http://www.customs.ro)

### **National Agency for Improvement and Animal Breeding**

59-63 Doctor Staicovici Street, Sector 5, Bucharest  
Phone/Fax: 40 21 2221569  
E-mail: [anarz@pcnet.ro](mailto:anarz@pcnet.ro)  
Web site: [www.anarz.ro](http://www.anarz.ro)

### **Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks**

5 Ion Ghica St., 030044 Bucharest  
Phone: 40 21 3146720 40 21 3145964 40 21 3145966  
Fax: 40 21 3123819  
E-mail: [office@osim.ro](mailto:office@osim.ro)  
Website: [www.osim.ro](http://www.osim.ro)

**Romanian Office for Property Rights**

91-93 Calea Victoriei, Sector 1, Bucharest  
Phone: 40 21 3175060 40 21 3175070  
Fax: 40 21 3175080  
Website: [www.orda.ro](http://www.orda.ro)

**Official Monitor**

1 Panduri St., Bl. P33, Sector 5, Bucharest  
Phone: 40 21 4115833; 40 21 4104730  
Fax: 40 21 4107736; 40 21 4104723  
E-mail: [marketing@ramo.ro](mailto:marketing@ramo.ro)  
Website: [www.monitoruloficial.ro](http://www.monitoruloficial.ro)

**Institute of Food Bioresources**

6 Dinu Vintila St., Sector 2, Bucharest  
Phone: 40 21 2109128 40 21 2113639  
Fax: 40 21 2109128

For further information on this report, please contact the FAS office in Bucharest. You can also visit the USDA website to read previous GAIN reports produced by our office.

**Foreign Agricultural Service Bucharest**

American Embassy, Romania  
7-9 Tudor Arghezi St.  
Phone: 40 21 3160398 40 21 2003374  
Fax: 40 21 3165998  
E-mail: [AgBucharest@usda.gov](mailto:AgBucharest@usda.gov)  
Web site: <http://www.usembassy.ro>